

**STAR**  
comics



**FINAL ISSUE!**

# **ANIMAX**

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BY THE  
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CODE  
AUTHORITY

**MARVEL®**

AT LAST! I NOW HAVE  
THE POWER TO VANQUISH  
THE ANIMAX! HA HA HA!



**DON'T MISS--**  
**THE END OF THE**  
**ANIMAX!**

25<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY EARTH IS A PLANET DIVIDED. ON ITS BETTER HALF--THE LITESIDE--DWELL THE ANIMAX, PEACEFUL CREATURES, EACH OF WHOM ENJOYS A TELEPATHIC BOND TO HIS OWN ROADTAMMER. ON EARTH'S DARKER FACE--THE NITESIDE--LIVE THE CARNIVOURUS AND THEIR HARSH, AUTHORITARIAN MASTERS, THE MOTOR MUTANTS. BACK AND FORTH, ACROSS THE BRIDGE LINKING LITESIDE TO NITESIDE, THE ANIMAX--COMMITTED TO PROTECTING THE EARTH AND THE HUMANS UPON IT--ENGAGE IN A NEVER-ENDING STRUGGLE AGAINST THE CARNIVOURUS, WHO ARE BENT ON WORLD DOMINATION. AND SO IT IS, THAT, ONE DAY...

GOOD WORK, GREASE-KICKER, YOUR PETROL PUMPER SUN TRIPPED UP THAT DELICIOUS HUMAN BEFORE SHE COULD REACH THE ROADTAMMERS!

PIECE O'CAKE, X-TINCTOR!

NOW GRAB HER, MY MOTOR MUTANTS! THEIR INFERNAL ANIMAX ARE NO MATCH FOR OUR CARNIVOURUS!

IF YOU INSIST, BOSS.

WHAT'RE WE WAITIN' FOR?

THE LIVING BRIDGE OF DOOM IS NEUTRAL TERRITORY FOR A GOOD REASON, RHINOX! WE CAN'T MAKE A MOVE UNTIL THE MOTOR MUTANTS...

WE ALSO CAN'T LET X-TINCTOR HAVE THE WOMAN, TIGER TRAKKER!

I'LL NEVER REACH ANIMAX ACTION AND THE SAFETY OF THE LITESIDE IN TIME! THE MUTANTS ARE ALMOST ON TOP OF ME ALREADY...



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STOP, OFF-ROAD RHINO RAMMER! WE'RE SUPPOSED TO WAIT FOR MAX ACTION'S SIGNAL. UH-OH!

NICE AIM, GREASE-KICKER! WHO'S THAT SUPPOSED TO STOP?

STAY AWAY FROM THE GIRL, GROSS-OUT, OR WE'LL...

WAK

YOUR TURBO-TIGER MAY BE SPIFFY ENOUGH TO AVOID MY OIL SLICKS, TIGER TRAKKER...

...BUT LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN MY DREADFUL DRAGSTER IGNITES THE GREASE!

GUESS IT'S UP TO MY MECHANICAL REPLACEMENT ARM TO STOP RHINOX! THIS ARM DOES HAVE ITS USES, THOUGH I COULD STILL KILL ROAD-HOG FOR BITING OFF THE REAL ONE!

THE FLAMES HAVE US PINNED, MAX ACTION!

IGNORE THAT SLITHERING CREVATOR, OBLITERATOR! DIRECT YOUR WEATHER POWERS TOWARD THE HUMAN SPECIMEN!

IF X-TINCTOR CAN'T HAVE HER, THEN NO ONE WILL!

GO AHEAD, YOU MONSTERS! ANYTHING'S BETTER THAN RETURNING TO THE NITESIDE AS YOUR SLAVE AGAIN!

OBLITERATOR, IF YOU WON'T DO IT YOURSELF, I'LL VAPORIZER HER MYSELF WITH MY AWESOME EXTERMINATOR...

BUT I'LL REMEMBER THIS AT YOUR FEEDING!

FORWARD, JUNGLE MAX. WE'VE STILL GOT TO GET PAST TORRENDUS AND BULLVERIZER!

KEEP GOING, TORRENDUS'S BONE-CRUSHER CLUB CAN'T STOP THE ROAR OF MY LION LASER!

ROOOOARRR

UUGH!

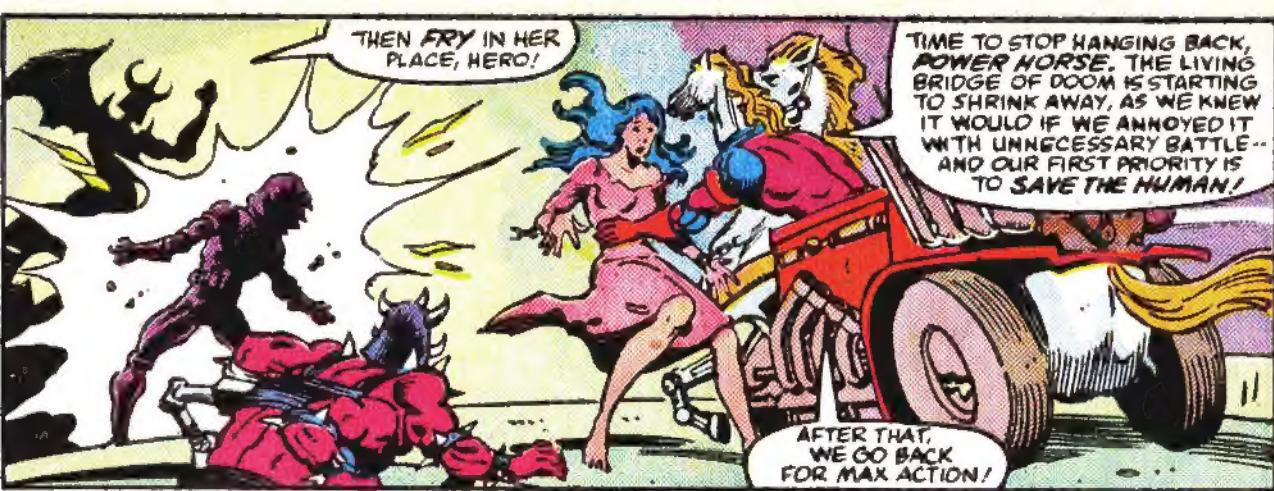
I HATE TO SEE EVEN A MOTOR-MUTANT FALL INTO THE CRACK OF DOOM, BUT I'VE GOT TO REACH THE WOMAN!

HELP ME UP, BULLVERIZER. I ORDER YOU TO HELP ME UP!

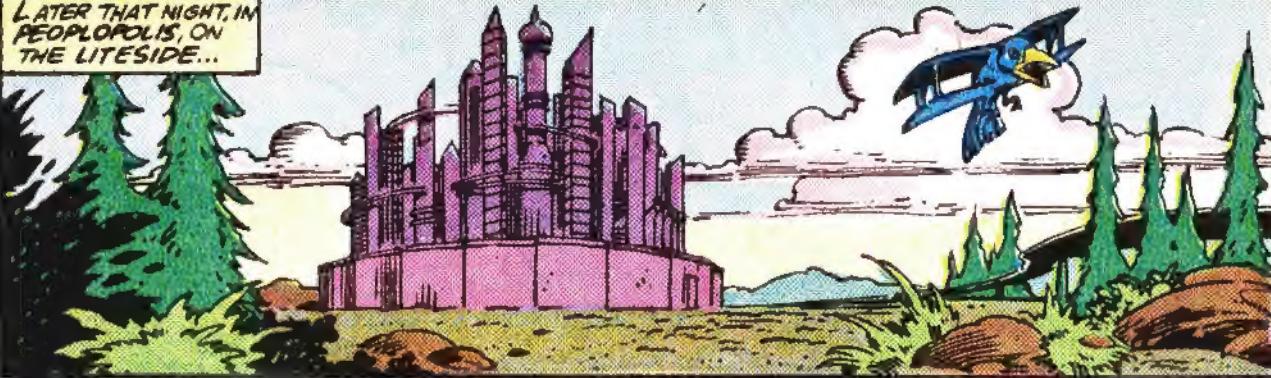
PREPARE TO DIE, HUMAN!

NO, X-TINCTOR, SHE'S UNDER MY PROTECTION NOW!

MAX ACTION! I KNEW HE'D BE THE ONE TO SAVE ME!



LATER THAT NIGHT, IN  
PEOPLOPOLIS, ON  
THE LITESIDE...



WELL, RHINOX, YOU'RE IN BETTER SHAPE  
THAN MAX ACTION, BUT I'D STILL ADVISE  
YOU AND TIGER TRAKKER TO STAY IN BED  
FOR AT LEAST A WEEK. SOME OF YOUR  
INJURIES...

WHAT ABOUT  
MAX, DOC?

AS FAR AS WE CAN  
TELL, HIS BODY ARMOR  
AND SOME... UNKNOWN  
FACTOR SIPHONED OFF  
MOST OF THE LETHAL  
BLAST...

...BUT HE'S STILL  
GOT TO DEAL WITH  
THE RADIATION  
FEVER FROM HIS  
LIMITED EXPOSURE!

IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION,  
WITHOUT YOUR HELP, THE GIRL  
... WOULDN'T HAVE HAD A CHANCE!

C'MON, TIGER TRAKKER,  
I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING!  
LET'S TALK TO THE GIRL.  
SHE MIGHT BE ABLE TO  
TELL US WHERE X-TINCTOR  
WOULD BE HOLDING  
TARMAC...

IF HE'S EVEN  
ALIVE!

...SO MAX ACTION  
CAN LEAD US ON THE  
RESCUE MISSION  
AS SOON AS HE  
RECOVERS.

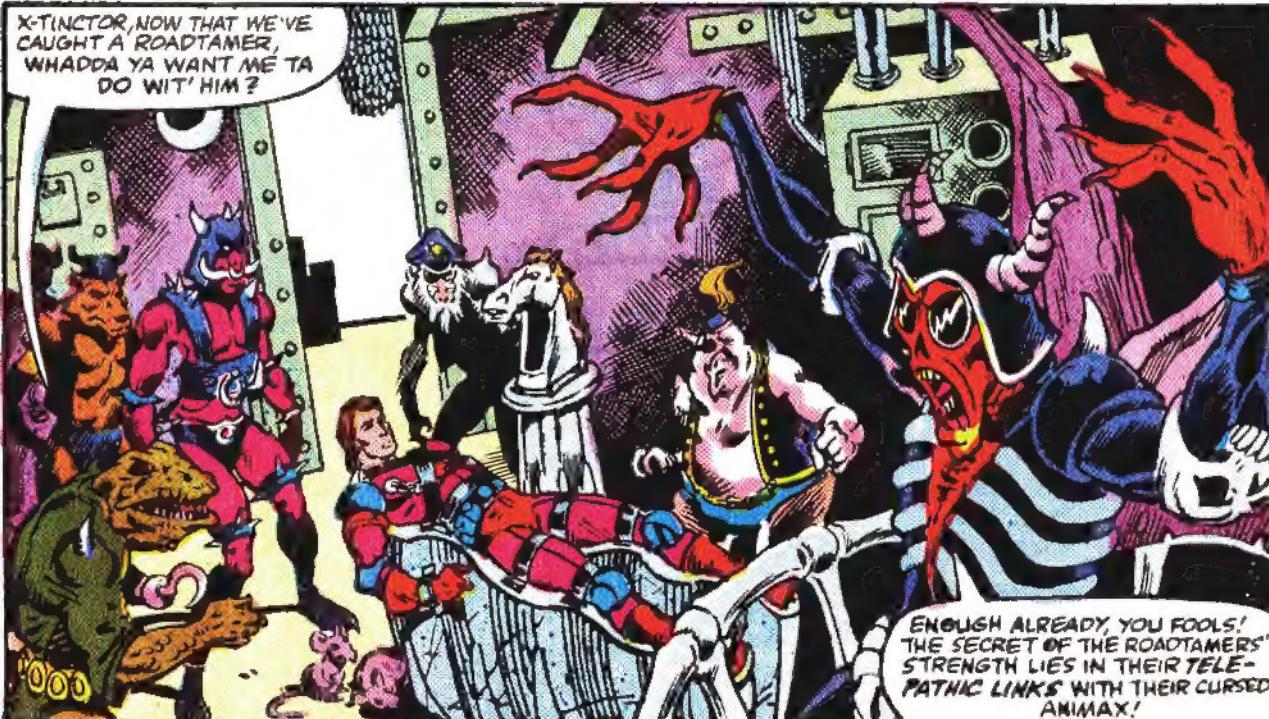
I'M AFRAID YOU GENTLEMEN  
DON'T UNDERSTAND. I DON'T  
EXPECT MAX ACTION TO SURVIVE  
THE NEXT FEW HOURS, MUCH LESS  
RECOVER ENOUGH TO LEAD A  
RESCUE MISSION!



MONSTRA-CITY!  
THE NITESIDE...



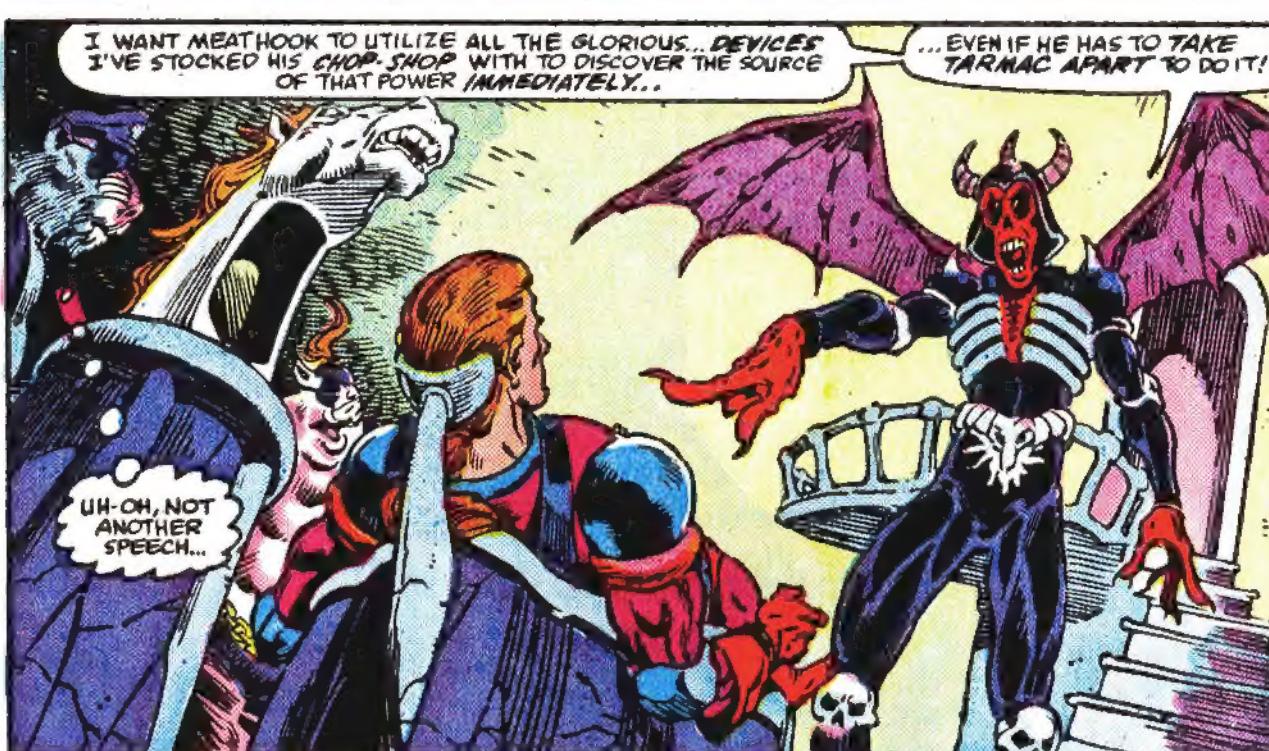
X-TINCTOR, NOW THAT WE'VE  
CAUGHT A ROADTAMER,  
WHADDYA WANT ME TA  
DO WIT' HIM?

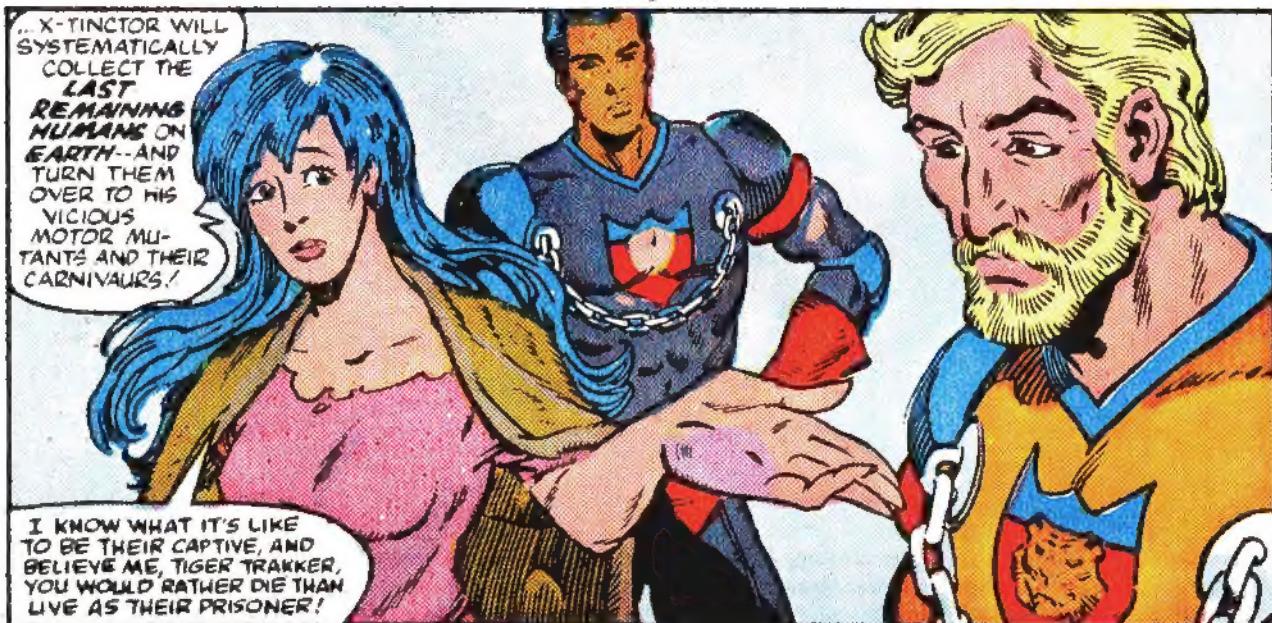


I WANT MEATHOOK TO UTILIZE ALL THE GLORIOUS... DEVICES  
I'VE STOCKED HIS CHOP-SHOP WITH TO DISCOVER THE SOURCE  
OF THAT POWER IMMEDIATELY...

...EVEN IF HE HAS TO TAKE  
TARMAC APART TO DO IT!

UH-OH, NOT  
ANOTHER  
SPEECH...





WE CAN'T LET IT HAPPEN,  
TIGER TRAKKER!

PLAN BLUE'LL NEVER WORK,  
RHINOX. EVEN WE DON'T FULLY  
UNDERSTAND OUR LINKS WITH  
THE ANIMAX!

THE SECRET OF THE LINKS  
MUST NOT FALL INTO THAT  
MANIAC'S HANDS!

OUR NUMBERS  
ARE HALVED,  
AND WITHOUT  
MAX ACTION,  
WE'RE LEADER-  
LESS, BUT FOR  
TARMAC'S  
SAKE AND TO  
PROTECT  
THE HUMANS,  
WE'VE GOT  
TO THWART  
X-TINCTOR'S  
PLAN!

IF ANYONE CAN PULL IT OFF,  
X-TINCTOR CAN! BELIEVE IT!

WELL, I DO FEEL A LITTLE BETTER WITH  
MY STRIPED STRIKER ALL JUICED UP.

YEAH, A LITTLE SOLAR POWER REALLY  
MAKES THE DIFFERENCE IN MY RHINO  
BAZOOKA BLASTER, TOO, PAL.

"GOOD STRATEGY TELLS ME OTHERWISE,  
BUT WE HAVE NO OTHER OPTION, RHINOX--  
WE'LL RAID THE NITESIDE AS SOON AS  
THE ANIMAX RETURN FROM THEIR  
'PILGRIMAGE' TO THE CAVE OF LIVINS  
LEGEND!"

AS THE ANIMAX TRAVEL TO THE CAVE OF THE LIVING LEGEND, EACH LISTENS IN, TELEPATHICALLY, TO HIS ROADTAMER IN THE ROADTAMERS' STRATEGY COUNCIL.

I SAW HUMONGOUS HAULER TRAILING BEHIND THE REST OF THE ANIMAX EARLIER, TIGER TRAKKER-- THAT MEANS TUSKOR IS AROUND SOMEWHERE.

FIND HIM, RHINOX, WE'LL NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET ON THIS MISSION!

WELCOME, ANIMAX, TO THE CAVE OF LIVING LEGEND. WELCOME, OFF-ROAD RHINO RAMMER, TURBO TIGER, POWER HORSE, AND HUMONGOUS HAULER.

PLEASE NOTE THE INFINITE FACETS OF ANIMAX HISTORY AND KNOWLEDGE DISPLAYED ON THE WALLS OF THE CAVE FOR YOUR AMUSEMENT AND DEDICATION.

WHEN YOU HAVE FOUND THE AREA OF THE WALLS THAT BEST ANSWERS YOUR QUESTION, PLEASE PLUG INTO THE APPROPRIATE RECEPTACLES.

**KLIK KLIK KLIK KLIK**

THANK YOU. AH, YOU WISH TO KNOW HOW BEST TO HELP YOUR ROADTAMERS--

THEN YOU WISH TO KNOW ABOUT PAIN!

THE PAIN YOU FEEL IS NOT  
YOUR PAIN--IT IS THE PAIN  
OF YOUR RIDERS AND  
FRIENDS, HUMONGOUS  
HAULER

THEIR SUFFERING--BOTH PHYSICAL  
AND MENTAL--CAN BE YOURS, IN-  
STEAD, SHARED THROUGH YOUR  
TELEPATHIC LINKS, TURBO TIGER



WITH YOUR HELP THE  
ROADTAMERS COULD BE  
ALL BUT INVINCIBLE IN  
BATTLE, OFF-ROAD  
RHINO RAMMER

OF COURSE, THERE IS A  
PRICE, ISN'T THERE,  
POWER HORSE?

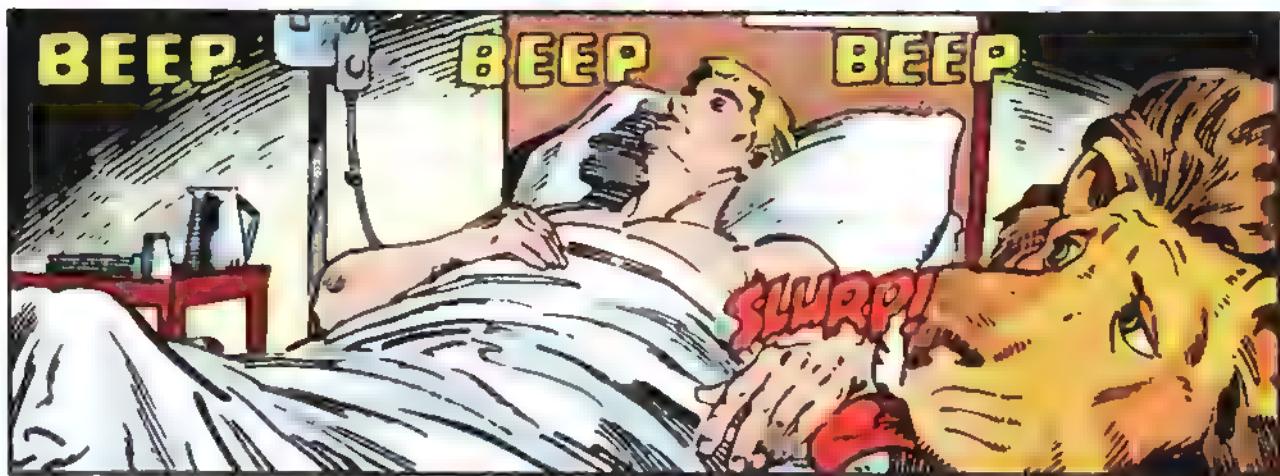
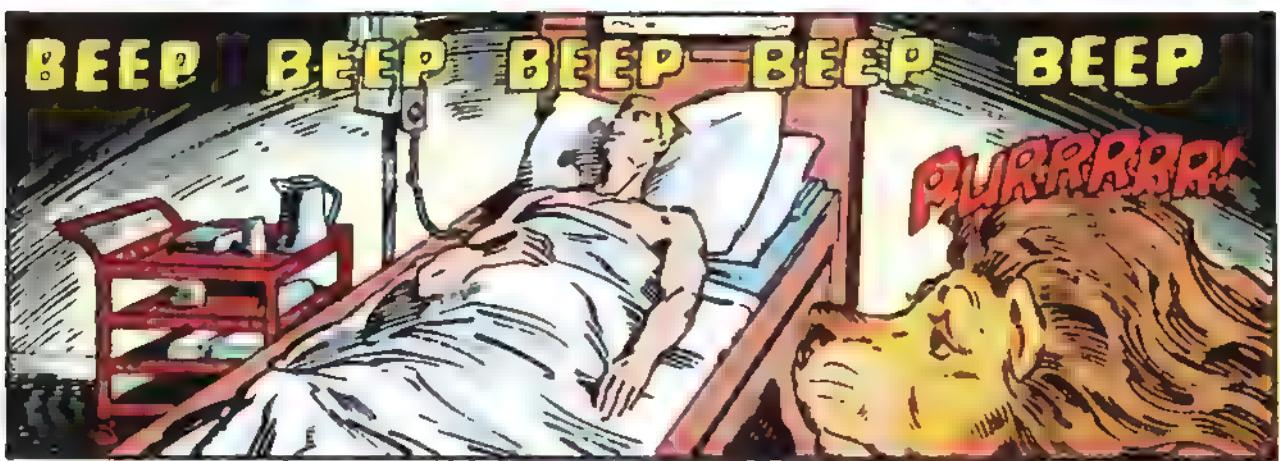
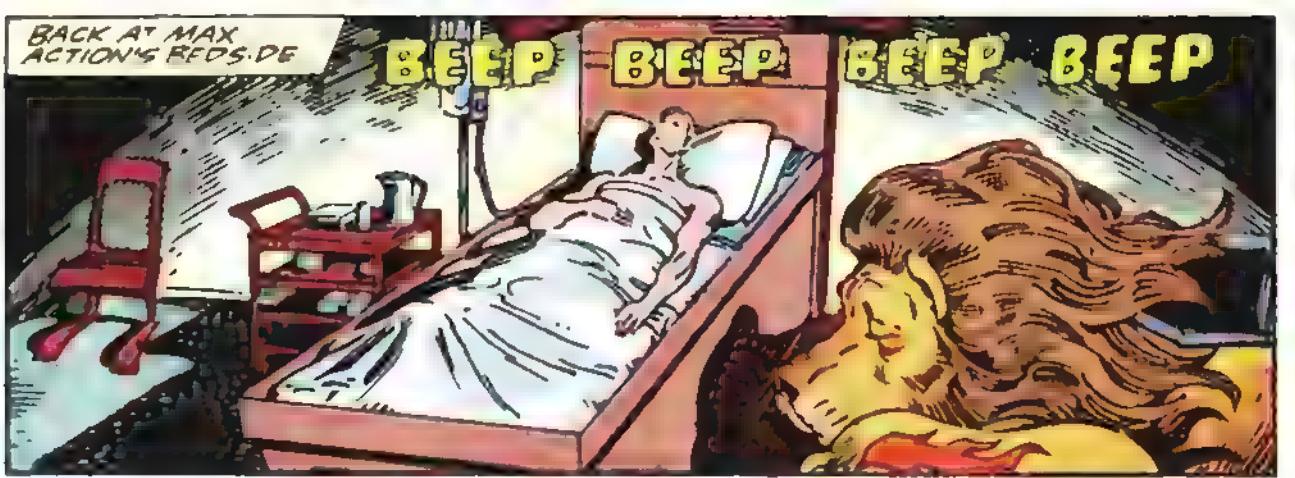
BESIDES THE SIMPLE FACT  
THAT PAIN HURTS, OVER-USE  
OF THIS ABILITY COULD LEAD  
TO PERMANENT LOSS OF  
THE MINDLINK BETWEEN  
AN ANIMAX AND HIS  
ROADETAMER...

...LEAVING THE ANIMAX AS  
NOTHING MORE THAN A  
MINDLESS MECHANICAL  
ANIMAL!

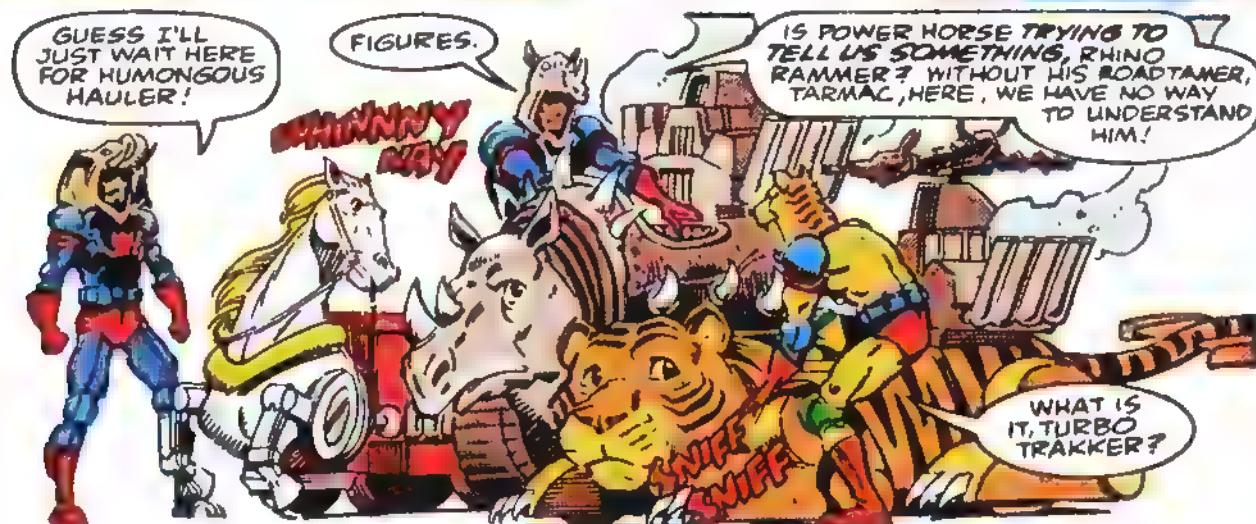
IT WOULD MEAN A COMPLETE LOSS  
OF THAT ANIMAX'S VERY AWARENESS  
OF EXISTENCE, AND FURTHERMORE--

- GOOD DAY,  
OFF-ROAD RHINO-  
RAMMER, TURBO  
TIGER, AND POWER  
HORSE, THANK YOU  
FOR COMING--

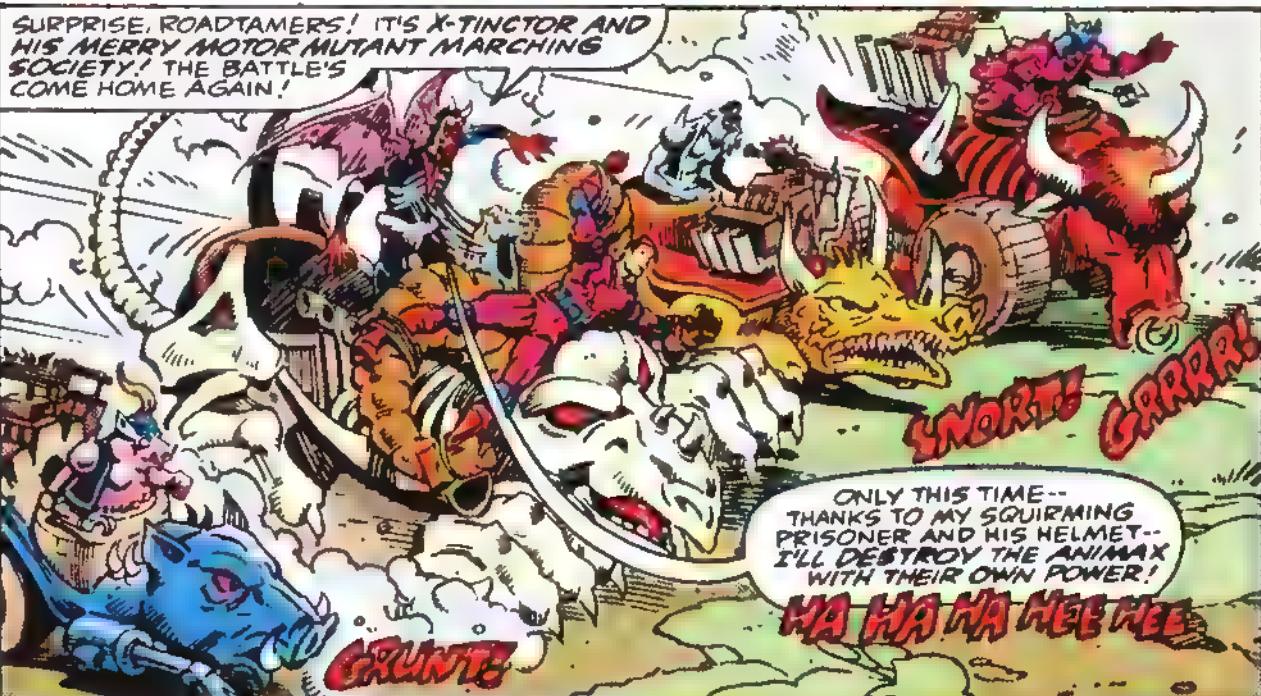
...AND FURTHERMORE  
HUMONGOUS HAULER

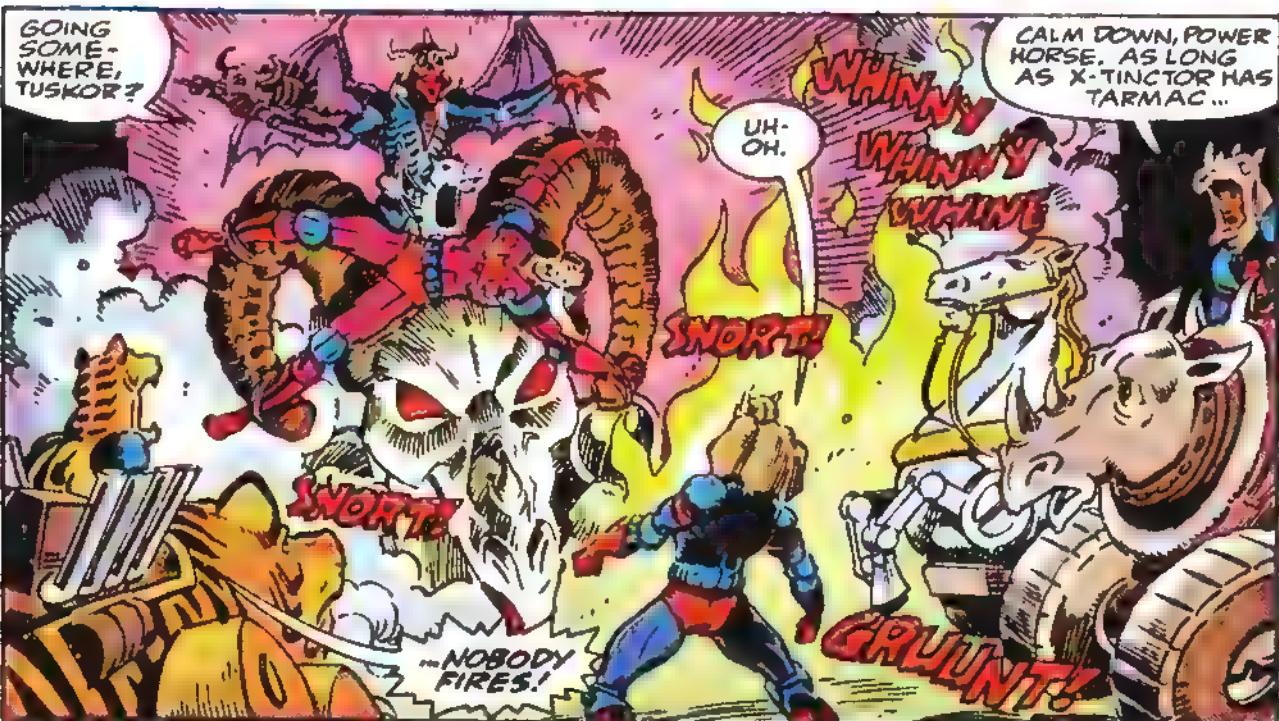
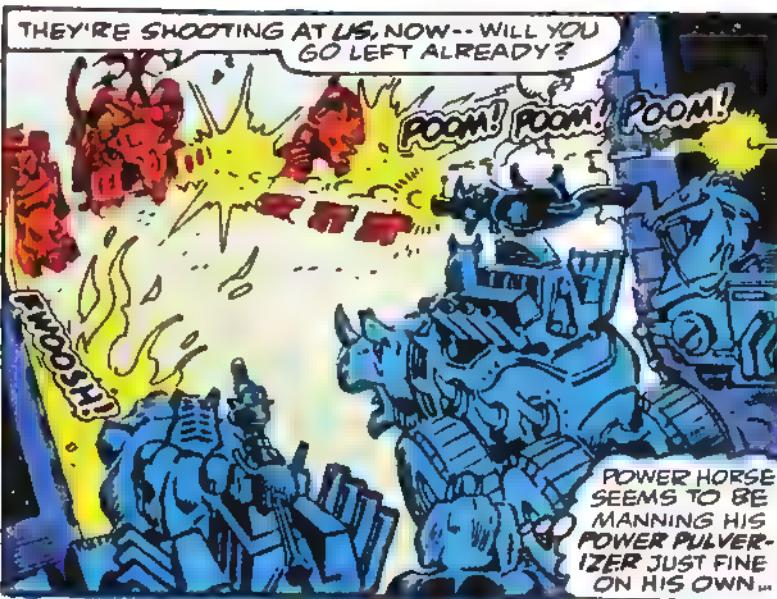
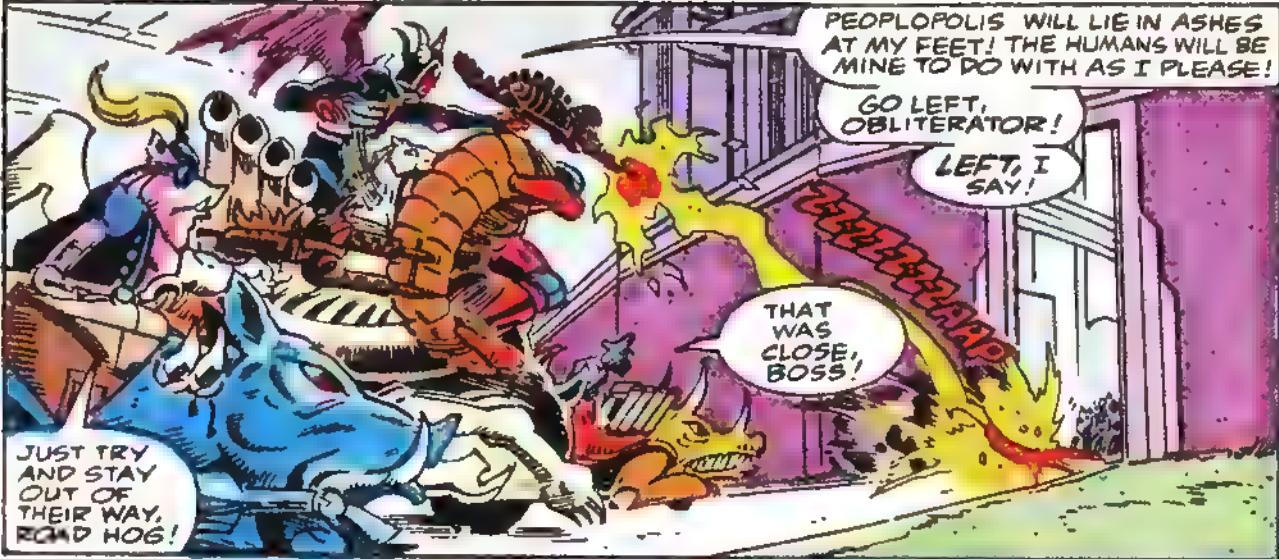


AT THE GATES OF PEOPLOPOLIS



SURPRISE, ROADTAMERS! IT'S X-TINCTOR AND HIS MERRY MOTOR MUTANT MARCHING SOCIETY! THE BATTLE'S COME HOME AGAIN!





NEARBY...

BEEP BEEP

BEEP BEEP BI

PURRRRR

GR-OOAN

ERK!

BEEP BEEP BE

BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BE

OHHH...

...JUNGLE MAX!

THUDD!

ON THE STREETS OUTSIDE...

WILL YOU GET UP  
ALREADY, OBLITER-  
ATOR? YOU'RE  
BEGINNING TO  
EMBARRASS ME

LOOK OUT!

LET'S  
SCURRY!

STAY BACK,  
ROADTAMERS!  
MY AWESOME  
X-TERMINATOR...

...WILL PUNISH  
THE FIRST TO  
APPROACH ME!

AAARRGH!

ZZZZZAAPPZZZ

RRRRR

WOW, THIS ARMOR WORKS BETTER  
THAN I THOUGHT-- I HARDLY  
FELT A THING!

WHAT'S  
WRONG  
WITH YOU,  
RHINO  
RAMMER?

"WITH YOUR HELP,  
THE ROADTAMERS  
COULD BE ALL BUT  
INVINCIBLE IN  
BATTLE OFF ROAD  
RHINO RAMMER..."

"IF WHAT YOU'VE  
TOLD ME IS TRUE,  
HUMONGOUS HAULER,  
YOU'VE ARRIVED JUST  
IN TIME! WE HAVE TO  
TELL THE ROADTAMERS  
WHAT'S GOING ON!"

HEY GUYS, LISTEN UP! THE ANIMAX  
LEARNED HOW TO ABSORB OUR  
PAIN AT THE CAVE...

AFRAID  
TO SHOOT  
AT ME  
TOO,  
TIGER  
TRAK-  
KER?

NOT FOR A SECOND,  
GREASE KICKER. AS  
SOON AS HUMONGOUS  
HAULER GETS OUT  
OF MY WAY...

REALLY GUYS THIS IS IMPORTANT, LISTEN TO  
ME! HUMONGOUS HAULER LEARNED SOME-  
THING THAT EVEN THE OTHER ANIMAX DON'T  
KNOW...

TIGER TRAKKER--  
CAN T ANYONE  
HEAR ME?

SNORT!

GRRR

FWOOSH!

YOU'RE  
CORNERED  
NOW, ROAD-  
TAMERS! IN  
YOUR WEAKENED  
CONDITIONS, YOU  
NEVER REALLY  
STOOD A CHANCE.

THIS IS A GOOD  
DISTANCE, ROAD-HOG!

DON'T BE SO SURE,  
GROSS OUT--I'VE  
NEVER FELT BETTER!  
I HARDLY EVEN  
FEEL ANY OF MY  
WOUNDS!

TATATATAT  
ATAT



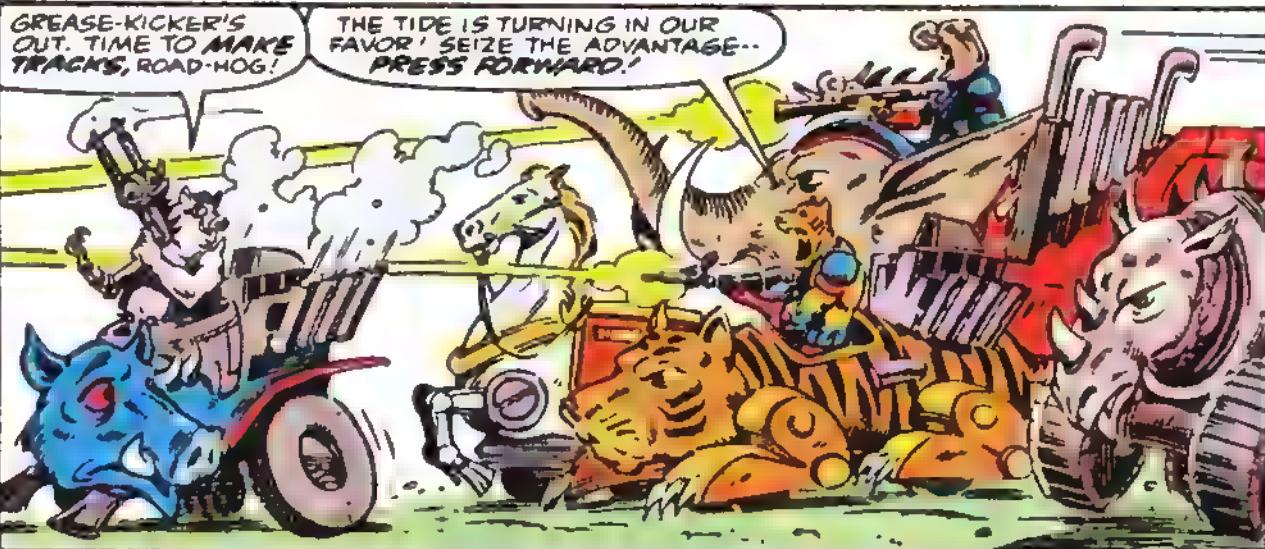
AS A MATTER OF FACT, YOU'VE  
YET TO DISABLE ANY OF US  
ROADTAMERS IN THIS  
AMBUSH!

DON'T YOU  
WISH YOU  
COULD SAY  
THE SAME?



GREASE-KICKER'S  
OUT. TIME TO MAKE  
TRACKS, ROAD-HOG!

THE TIDE IS TURNING IN OUR  
FAVOR! SEIZE THE ADVANTAGE--  
PRESS FORWARD!



YES, ROADTAMERS!  
COME--ATTACK ME!

I  
DARE  
YOU!

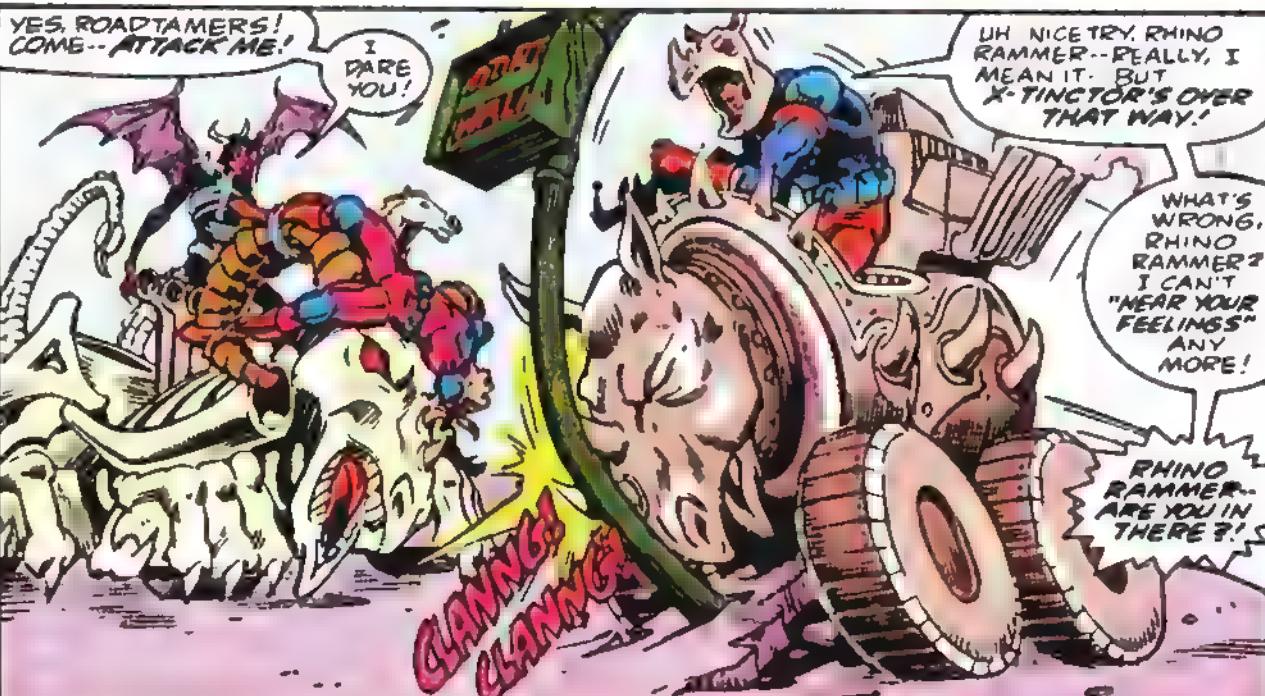


UH NICE TRY, RHINO  
RAMMER--REALLY, I  
MEAN IT. BUT  
X-TINCTOR'S OVER  
THAT WAY!

WHAT'S  
WRONG,  
RHINO  
RAMMER?  
I CAN'T  
"HEAR YOUR  
FEELINGS"  
ANY  
MORE!

RHINO  
RAMMER--  
ARE YOU IN  
THERE?!

CLANGING!  
CLANGING!



THAT'S WHAT I'VE  
BEEN TRYING TO  
TELL YOU GUYS...

"THEIR SUFFERING BOTH  
PHYSICAL AND MENTAL--CAN  
BE YOURS INSTEAD. SHARED  
THROUGH YOUR TELEPATHIC  
LINKS, TURBO TIGER..."

THE  
ANIMAX ARE  
ABSORBING  
OUR PAIN...

"THE PAIN YOU FEEL  
IS NOT YOUR PAIN--  
IT IS THE PAIN OF  
YOUR RIDERS AND  
FRIENDS. HUMONGOUS  
HAULER."

TAR  
MAC

"BUT IT'S WEAKENING THEIR PSYCHIC  
LINKS WITH US--COSTING THEM  
THEIR VERY SANITY!"

"OF COURSE, THERE IS A  
PRICE, ISN'T THERE...?"

TIME!

"THERE'S MORE! AFTER THE  
OTHERS LEFT THE CAVE OF LIVING  
LEGEND, HUMONGOUS HAULER  
FOUND OUT THE UGHN!"

I THINK THEY FORGOT  
ABOUT US, BULLVER ZER

NO! THEY WEREN'T  
SUPPOSED TO FIND  
OUT YET!

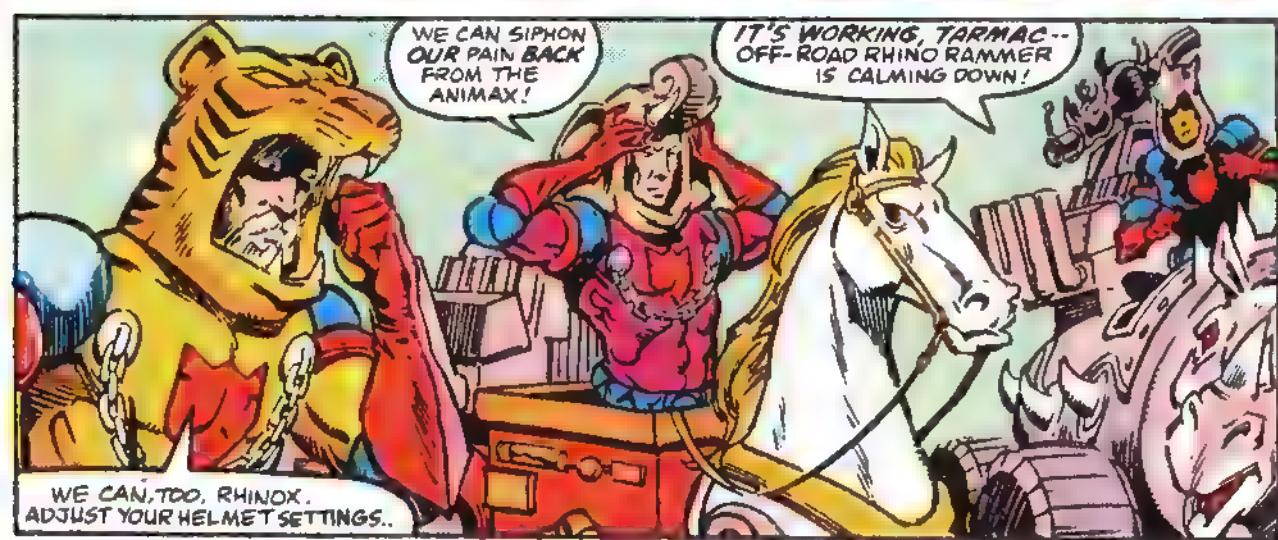
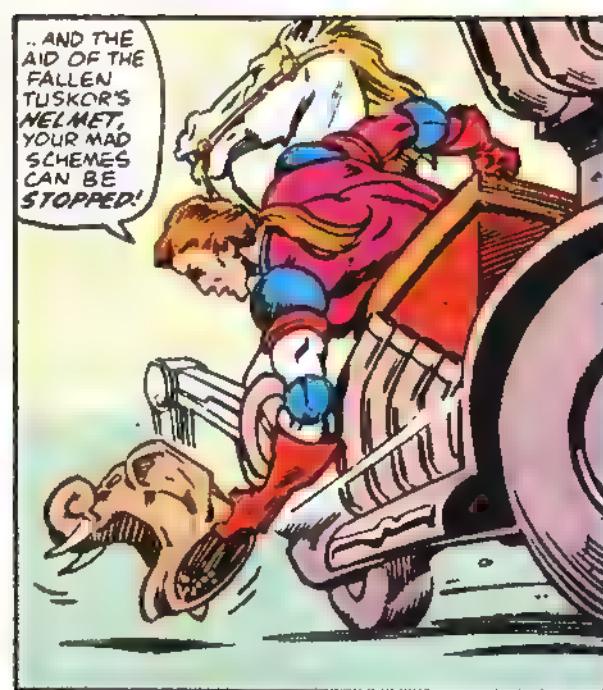
HE KNEW  
ALL  
ALONG!

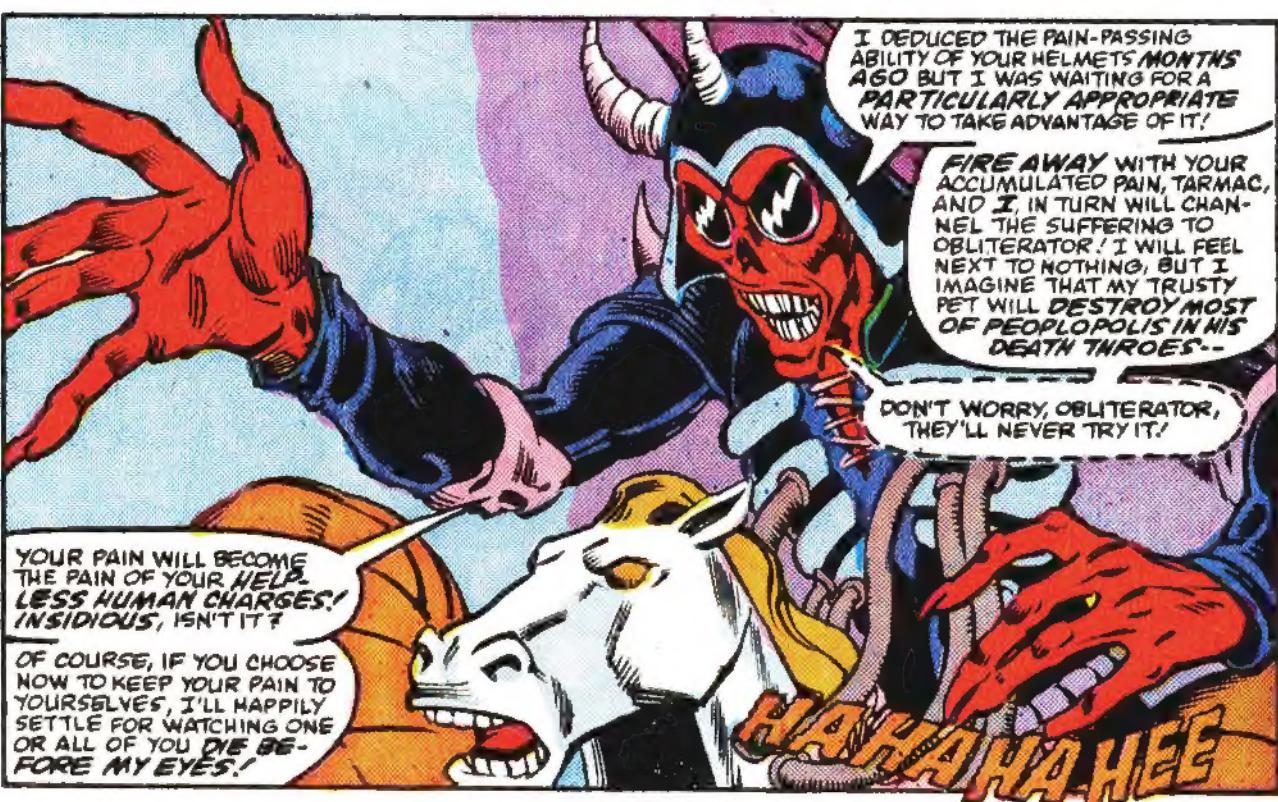
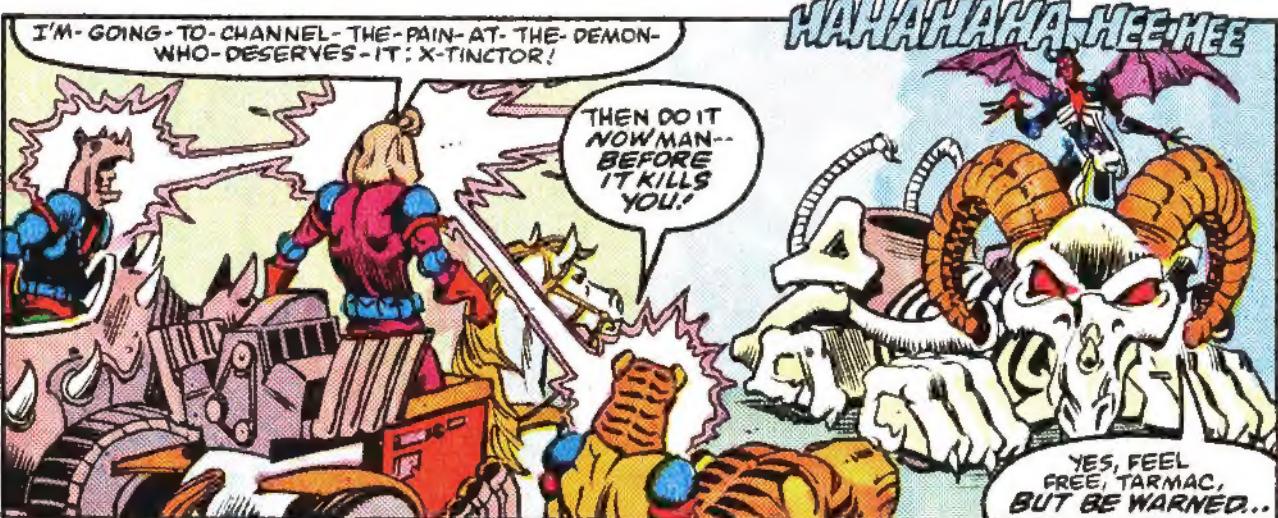
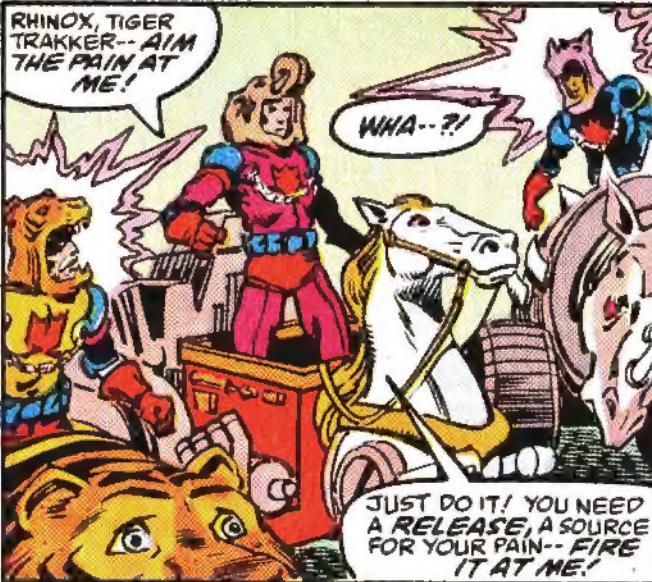
HURRY,  
POWER  
HORSE!

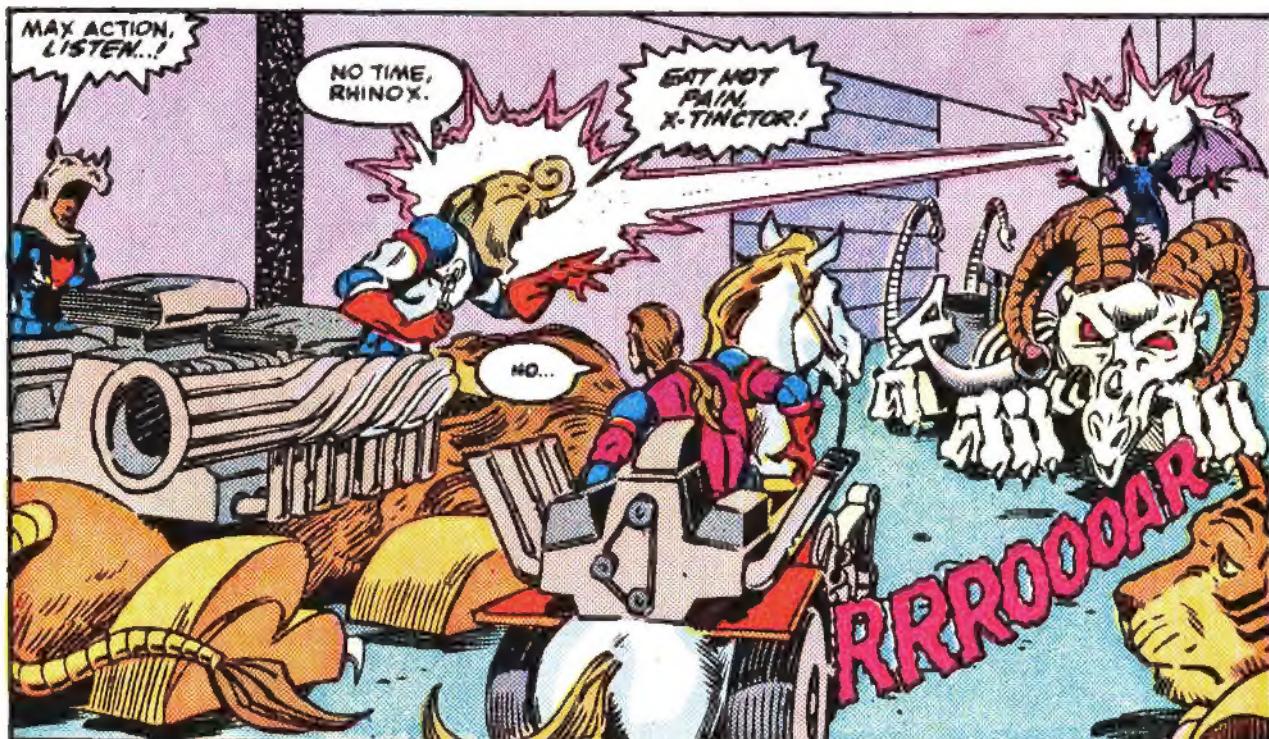
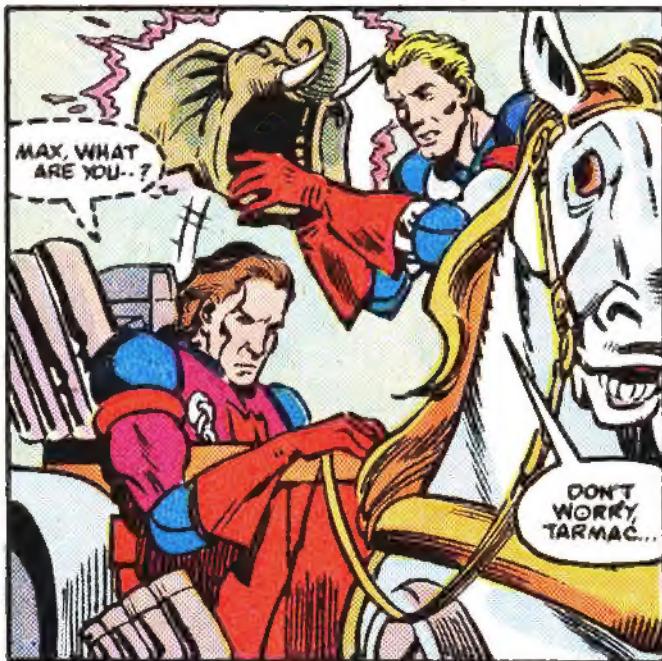
WHA--?  
YOU COULD  
HAVE TOLD  
ME THAT  
TARMAC WAS  
GETTING  
FREE, OBLI-  
TERATOR!

TOO LATE NOW,  
X-TINCTOR!

AND  
WITH WHAT  
I'VE LEARNED  
FROM YOUR  
BANTING AND  
RAVINO...







HOW PERFECT!  
THE NOBLE MAX  
ACTION HIMSELF  
WILL BRING  
ABOUT THE  
ROADTAMERS'  
DOWNFALL!

HA HA  
HEEE

WAIT! YEEEOOW!

YAAAAAA

SORRY ABOUT THIS,  
OBITERATOR!

IT'S NOT  
WORKING--

THE BOSS  
DISAPPEARED!  
AND THE CAVALRY'S ARRIVED  
FOR THE OTHER SIDE-- LET'S  
GET OUTTA HERE!

POOM  
POOM  
POOM

TAT A TAT A TAT

BOOM!

BOOM!

MOVE IN,  
CITIZENS!

ROARRRRRRRRRR

UH-OH.

UH-OH.

UH-OH.

GULP

GRRRR?

WE GO' LUCKY-- HE'S JUST LOOKING FOR HIS MASTER!

WELL, I DON'T THINK HE'S GOING TO FIND HIM-- X-TINCTOR'S OUT OF OUR LIVES FOREVER!

THANKS TO MAX ACTION'S MIRACULOUS RESCUE!

IT'S TRUE, MAX, THE DOCTOR'S SAID YOU'D BE OUT OF ACTION FOR QUITE A WHILE!

IT'S A MIRACLE TO ME, TOO, GUYS, BUT I'VE NEVER FELT BETTER!

RIGHT NOW, I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT JUNGLE MAX-- HE INSISTED ON ACCOMPANYING ME INTO BATTLE, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH HIM.

I STILL WANT TO KNOW WHY X-TINCTOR'S PLAN DIDN'T WORK.

I THINK I CAN EXPLAIN THAT, TIGER TRAKKER. WE COULDN'T GET THIS ACROSS TO YOU DURING THE BATTLE, BUT HUMONGOUS HAULER DISCOVERED THAT THE PAIN-PASSING ABILITY ISN'T A BY-PRODUCT OF THE HELMETS...

...IT'S A NATURAL BOND FORMED BY THE VERY REAL LOYALTY BETWEEN ANIMAX AND THEIR ROADTAMERS.

A BOND THAT DOESN'T EXIST BETWEEN MOTOR MUTANTS AND CARNIVARS.

SO, WITH NO CONDUIT FOR THE PAIN, X-TINCTOR'S PLAN LITERALLY BACK-FIRED!

THAT ALSO EXPLAINS MAX ACTION'S RECOVERY AND JUNGLE MAX'S ILLNESS. JUNGLE MAX SIMPLY EXERCISED THIS ABILITY INSTINCTIVELY-- WITHOUT THE HELMET-- THROUGH THE LOVE THAT BONDS THEM TOGETHER!

SO ALL I NEED DO IS SPEND TIME WITH JUNGLE MAX UNTIL OUR NATURAL STRENGTH LEVELS BALANCE OUT!

BUT WHAT KIND OF BOND EXISTS BETWEEN X-TINCTOR AND MYSELF THAT ALLOWED ME TO CHANNEL THE PAIN AT HIM?

AND WHY DO I SO SURELY BELIEVE-- KNOW-- THAT X-TINCTOR IS STILL ALIVE??

HAAAHAHAHEEHEE